1	2	3
Maharashtra	—	1523
Manipur	18866	32345
Meghalaya	17000	20222
Mizoram	—	187
Nagaland	—	17266
Orissa	45812	12686
Pondicherry	—	—
Punjab	—	—
Rajasthan	2047	4078
Sikkim	—	118
Tamil Nadu	284646	17747
Tripura	24003	16182
Uttar Pradesh	431921	371617
Uttarakhand	—	6161
West Bengal	245000	51314
TOTAL:	1774034	844902

Steep rise in price of cotton

†1001. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been steep rise in the prices of cotton during the last months of financial year 2008-2009;

(b) if so, the percentage of hike and quantum of hike in the prices of cotton which is used in the handloom industries in the country;

(c) whether many handloom units are getting sick due to this price rise; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir. The prices of raw cotton which started declining from the commencement of the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

current cotton season 2008-09 (Oct.-Sept.) remained steady as is evident from the Statement given below:—

Average price of lint cotton (Rs. per kg)

Month	Short staple (20 mm and below)	Medium staple (20.5 mm-24.5 mm)			Long staple (27.5 mm-32mm)	Extra Long staple (32.5 mm and above)
	Bengal Deshi	V-797	Jayadhar	Y-1	S-4/S-6	DCH-32
Oct.-2008	70.66	56.88	60.39	64.97	68.27	90.00
Nov.-2008	72.06	53.16	58.22	60.96	63.14	88.59
Dec.-2008	74.12	53.16	58.22	58.21	61.17	82.47
Jan.-2009	73.01	53.16	58.22	56.53	66.63	79.42
Feb.-2009 (as on 7-02-09)	72.00	53.16	58.22	54.84	58.50	77.34

Source: Cotton Association of India, Mumbai.

Note: Spot rates inclusive of entry tax but exclusive of Sales Tax/Central Sales Tax.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) No reports of sickness due to price rise of cotton, which is used in the Handloom sector have been received from any of the State Governments.

Creating silk centres in the country

1002. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to create 40 silk centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating those that are proposed to be located in Orissa and Jharkhand; and

(c) how far will this help to increase production of this commodity and extend increased facilities to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Government of India through Central Silk Board in close co-ordination with the State Sericulture Departments is promoting development of sericulture in cluster mode approach throughout the country during Eleventh Plan. Under this Cluster Promotion Programme, Central Silk Board (CSB) has proposed implementation of 50 cluster projects jointly with the State Governments, covering Mulberry, Tasar, Eri and Muga sectors.